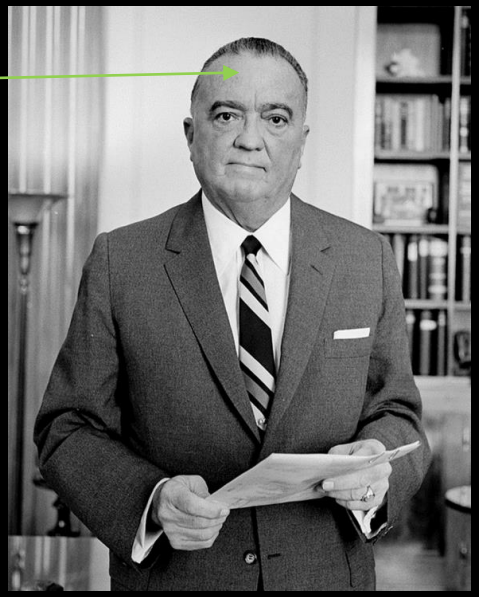
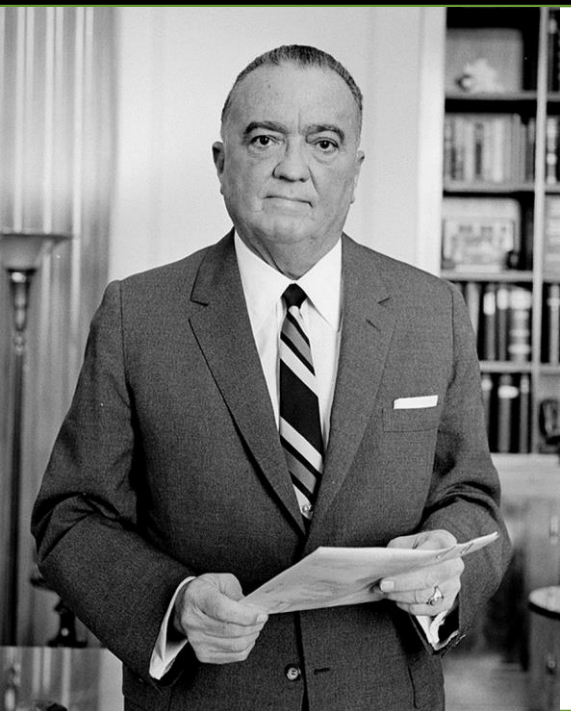
Chaplin's heart clapped for a just society - full of humor, of course.
FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover was obsessed with protecting the United States from the red danger, communism. The collision course was obvious, and it became a match that would last for 30 years. A match in many rounds, in the middle of the Cold War days. For the FBI, all funds were allowed.

FBI



Hoovers Paranoia

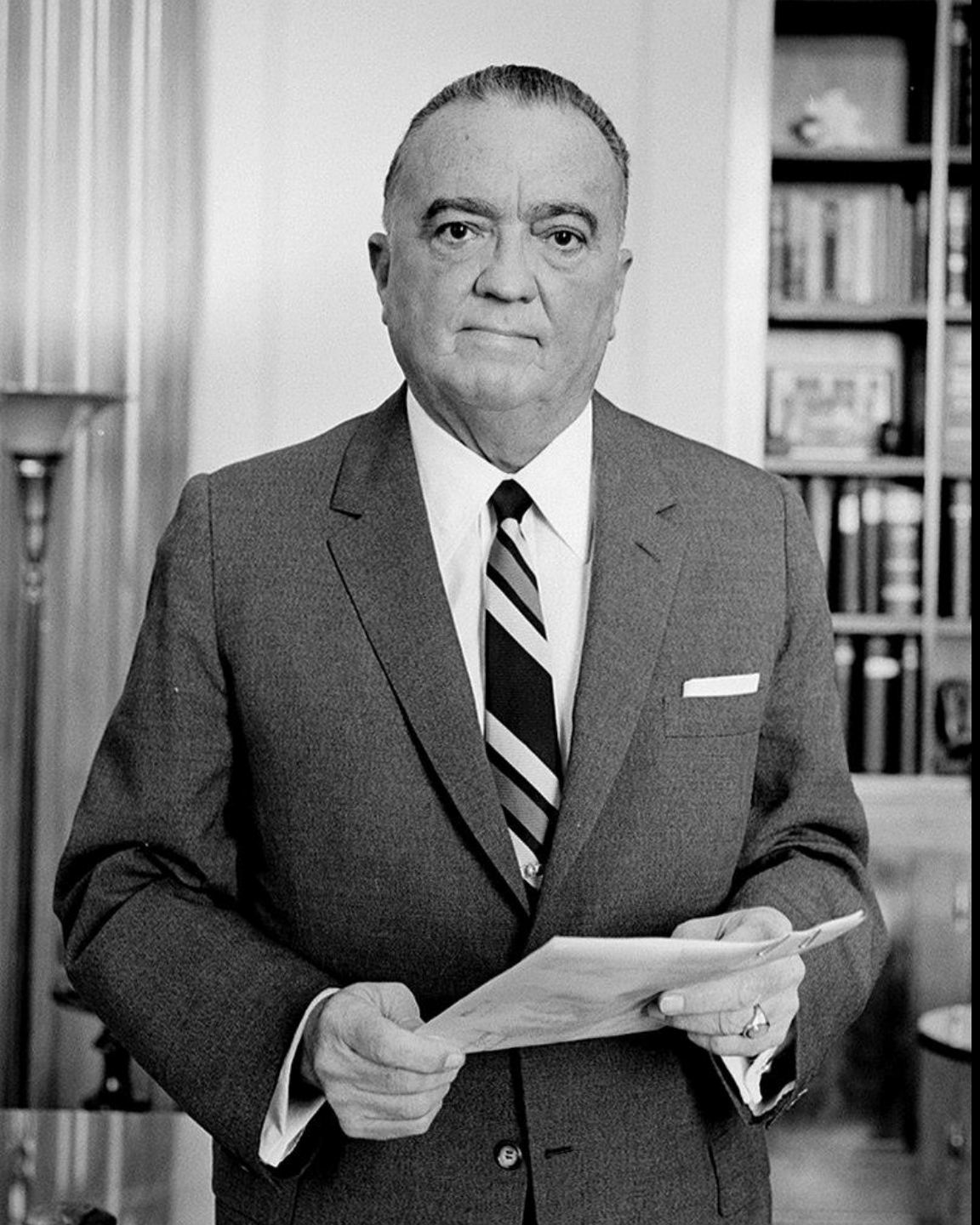
FBI Chief J E Hoover started monitoring Charlie Chaplin as early as 1922. The surveillance was made as far back as the 1970s. It all evolved into a pure paranoia on the part of Hoover and to pure illegality on the part of Hoover. All of Chaplin's life was mapped out and the archives have now become public. It's a big scandal and a dark chapter in the history of the FBI and the aftermath of J Edgar Hoover.



Paranoia / Hoover

Chaplin a treath to US

FBI



John Edgar Hoover (January 1, 1895 – May 2, 1972) was the first Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the United States and an American law enforcement administrator. He was appointed as the director of the Bureau of Investigation – the FBI's predecessor – in 1924 and was instrumental in founding the FBI in 1935, where he remained director for another 37 years until his death in 1972 at the age of 77. Hoover has been credited with building the FBI into a larger crime-fighting agency than it was at its inception and with instituting a number of modernizations to police technology, such as a centralized fingerprint file and forensic laboratories.

Counter-Intelligence operations as part of modern warfare serve the purpose of national security. However, these operations often target civilians, and therefore give rise to serious **allegations which can have devastating effects** on many people's life. The McCarthy era in view of the persecution of **Charles Chaplin** and Lucille Ball. Their cases aptly illustrate the controversial tactics and methods of McCarthyism in post-war America. The fully detailed records give an insight into the impact of espionage accusations on civilians' lives and provide a good account of post-war American intelligence actions.

Charlie Chaplin was a British subject, however, he spent most of his life in the USA where he became an influential figure of the movie industry. **Although the FBI tried to level charges against Chaplin, none of them was proven.** In spite of this fact, he was the subject of several extensive investigations conducted by the FBI. The media and the public also unleashed attacks against him, and finally, **he was forced to exile in Switzerland.** The presented events and facts profusely illustrate the proceedings of the persecutions in the McCarthy era and their devastating effects on many people's life.

J E Hoover/FBI asked MI5 to spy on Charlie Chaplin

MI5 spied on Charlie Chaplin after FBI asked for help to banish him from US

MI5 opened a file on Charlie Chaplin while he was being hounded by J Edgar Hoover's FBI for alleged communist sympathies.
The FBI, which described the star of Modern Times and The Great Dictator as one of "Hollywood's parlour Bolsheviks", asked MI5 for information to help get him banned from the US. The results, including information gathered through eavesdropping, are contained in an extensive personal MI5 file released on Friday at the National Archives.

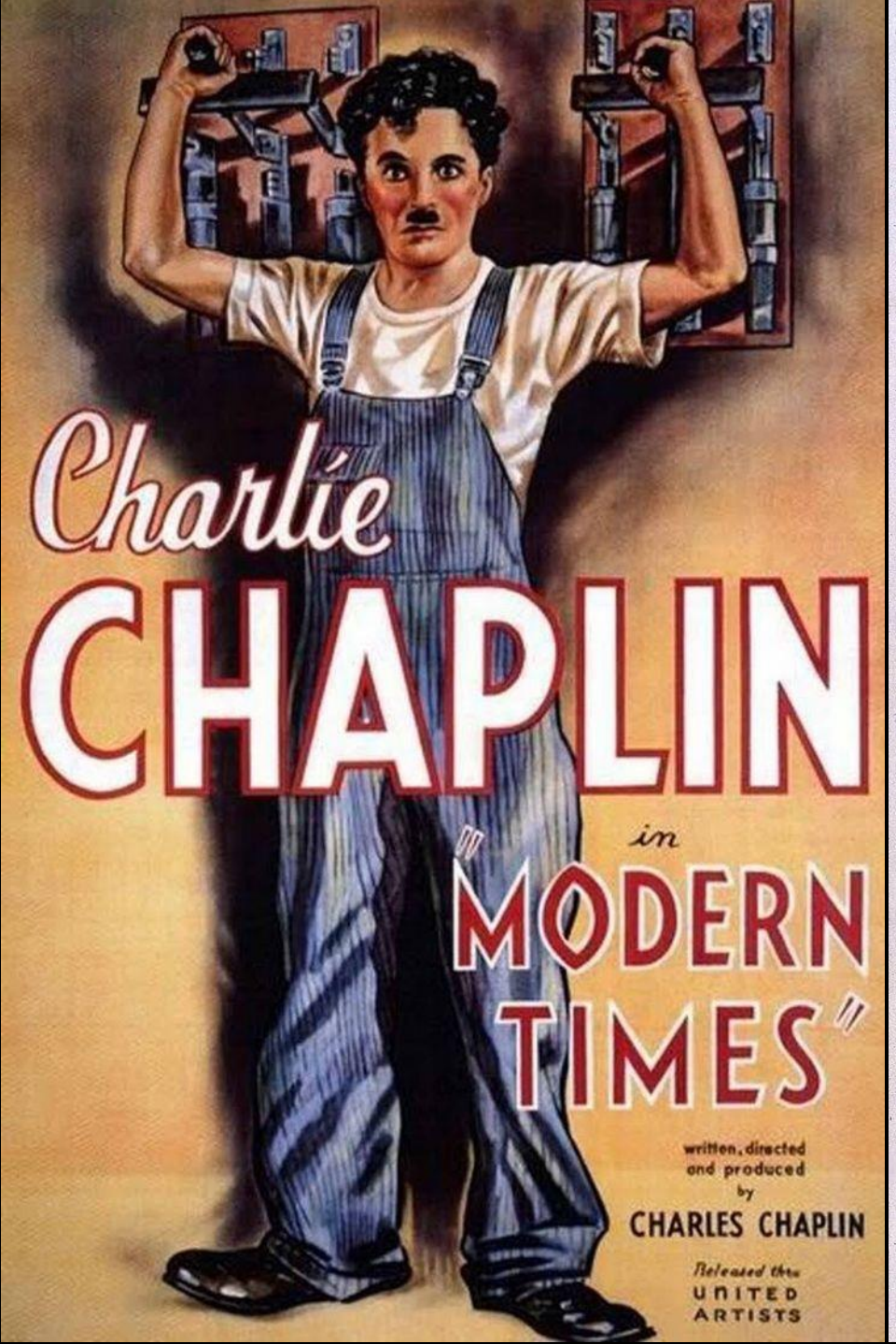
The FBI, which amassed more than 2,000 pages on Chaplin, asked MI5 if he was going to meet any "highly placed persons" in London, and to establish any links he had with the Communist party there.

Chaplin's MI5 file, number PF710549, concludes: "It may be that Chaplin is a communist sympathiser but on the information before us he would appear to be no more than a 'progressive', or radical."

The Tramp debuts in Kid Auto Races at Venice (1914), Chaplin's second released film

The Kid (1921), with Jackie Coogan, combined comedy with drama and was Chaplin's first film to exceed an hou

By 1916, Chaplin was a global phenomenon. Here he shows off some of his merchandise, c. 1918.


Charlie
CHAPLIN
in
"MODERN TIMES"
written, directed and produced by
CHARLES CHAPLIN
Released thru
UNITED ARTISTS

"The One and Only"
Charlie Chaplin
His Signature
In his First Million Dollar Picture
"A DOG'S LIFE"
A "First National" Attraction

In The Great Dictator, Chaplin bitterly satirized the fascist rulers of Germany and Italy at a time when Hollywood studios were very reluctant to offer such criticism. He played two roles in the film, a Jewish barber and the Hitler-like Adenoid Hynkel. The prospect of Chaplin's effort and other anti-Nazi films so unnerved Hitler that in a January 30, 1939 speech, according to Carr, he "thundered that 'the announcement of American film companies of their intention to produce anti-Nazi—i.e., anti-German—films, will lead to our German producers creating anti-Semitic films in the future.'"